

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that the drawings filed in this application are acceptable for examination purposes.

Claims 1-26 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-26 have been rejected. Claims 1, 7, 13, 16, 18, 21, and 23 have been amended. Claims 17 and 22 have been canceled. Applicants maintain the patentability of claims 17 and 22. However, these claims have been canceled for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution of the present application. The rejections of these claims are obviated by their cancellation.

Claims 1-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Poyser et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,654,806). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-16, 18-21, and 23-26 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 1, 7, 13, 18, and 23 include features that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited reference, namely, as represented by claim 1:

a user-changeable transformer test sequence comprising a plurality of user-selected tests and instructions in a user-defined order of execution....

A transformer test sequence is user-changeable and comprises user-selected tests and instructions. The tests and instructions are set to execute in a user-defined order of execution. A user can change the order of execution of tests and instructions within a test sequence or the order of pre-existing sequences. This provides the user with, for example, the option of specifying those test instructions or test sequences most likely to cause test failure followed by sequences less likely to cause failure (application as originally filed, page 7, lines 6-11).

Poyser et al., on the other hand, neither discloses nor suggests a user-changeable transformer test sequence, nor a user-defined order of execution of user-selected tests and instructions, as required by claim 1. Poyser describes a method and apparatus for monitoring transformers using algorithms based on a table, such as Table 1 of Poyser. In Poyser, data is collected and compared to data values that have been previously stored (e.g., in the table). A previously defined action is then taken responsive to the comparison.

However, in Poyser, the sequence of testing is not user-changeable, an order of

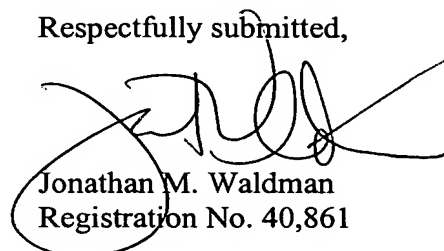
execution is not user-definable, and the user cannot select which tests and methods he would like in the test sequence.

With regards to claims 3, 4, and 5, the Examiner states that "it is inherent that anyone skilled in the art may customize the type and sequence of the tests applied" (Office Action, page 3, section 6). It is respectfully submitted that the type and sequence of the tests described in Poyser are not inherently customizable by a user. Poyser merely provides a table of multiple conditions that, when taken together, dictate subsequent system actions. For example, if the top oil temperature is above a certain temperature, and the hot spot temperature is less than a certain temperature and other conditions are met, then a first process is performed; otherwise, another process, suitable for the conditions, is performed, pursuant to the programmed table. It does not necessarily follow that a user would be provided with the ability to change the test sequence, the tests in the sequence, or the order of execution of the tests. For example, in Poyser, there is absolutely no reason given or contemplated why one would want to measure the top oil temperature before the hot spot temperature or vice versa. It does not matter in Poyser what order the data is collected in or when the data is compared to its threshold values. As long as all the data is collected and compared, the Poyser system operates as intended. There is no teaching or suggestion, and it is clearly not inherent, of a user-changeable transformer test sequence, nor a user-defined order of execution of user-selected tests and instructions, as required by claim 1.

Claims 7, 13, 18, and 23 recite similar features as those set forth above with respect to claim 1. Based on the foregoing, claims 1, 7, 13, 18, and 23 and all claims dependent therefrom, including claims 2-6, 8-12, 14-16, 19-21, and 24-26, respectively, should not be rejected as being anticipated by Poyser et al. Thus, claims 1-16, 18-21, and 23-26 are patentable for the reasons set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-16, 18-21, and 23-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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